IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend the following claims:

1. (currently amended) An image pickup lens unit comprising at least three optical elements having at least an air interval for forming an air lens wherein the optical elements are formed unitarily and wherein the optical elements are cemented mutually between the other optical elements which neighbors in an optical axis or ~~between~~ with a sandwiching members which ~~are disposed between~~ is cemented with the other optical elements.

2. (currently amended) An image pickup lens unit according to claim 1 wherein side surfaces of the optical elements are aligned in a surface which expands in the optical axis direction.

3. (Previously presented) An image pickup lens unit according to Claim 1 wherein conditions such as ST/TD<0.7 and MT/TD<0.5 are effective under the condition that an interval between a first surface in an optical system in which the optical elements are cemented and a last surface in the optical system is defined as a TD, a total length of the air interval in the optical axis is defined as an ST, and a maximum length of the air interval in the optical axis is defined as an MT.

4. (Original) An image pickup lens unit according to Claim 1 wherein the surfaces of the optical elements except optical surfaces are provided with a light absorbing member.

5. (Currently amended) An image pickup lens unit according to Claim 1 wherein a maximum of an inclination angle θ is not more obtuse than 60 degrees on each optical surface in the optical elements under the condition that an angle between an optical axis in an optical surface in the optical element and a normal in an effective diameter in the optical surface is defined as an inclination angle θ.

6. (Currently amended) An image pickup lens unit according to Claim 1 wherein the optical elements form ~~an~~ a cemented lens in which at least optical surfaces of a pair of the optical elements are cemented together.

7. (Currently amended) An image pickup lens unit according to Claim 6 wherein a relationship such as

$$0<|\varphi/\varphi_A|<0.5$$

is effective under the condition that a maximum power in ~~an~~ a cemented surface of the lens is defined ~~as~~φ as φ, and a power of the optical element which is formed unitarily in an overall optical system is defined ~~as~~φ_A as φ_A.

8. (Original) An image pickup lens unit according to Claim 1 wherein an optical filter member is cemented to the optical element.

9. (Previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 1.

10. (Original) An image pickup device according to Claim 9 wherein an image pickup element is cemented to the image pickup lens unit.

11. (Previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 2.

12. (Previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 3.

13. (Previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 4.

14. (Previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 5.

15. (Previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 6.

16. (Previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 7.

17. (Previously presented) An image pickup device which is provided with the image pickup lens unit according to Claim 8.

18. (Previously presented) An image pickup device according to Claim 11 wherein an image pickup element is cemented to the image pickup lens unit.

19. (Previously presented) An image pickup device according to Claim 12 wherein an image pickup element is cemented to the image pickup lens unit.

20. (Previously presented) An image pickup device according to Claim 13 wherein an image pickup element is cemented to the image pickup lens unit.